



THE PROMISE

J.T.C.

DEATH TO ALL JEWS!

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NO!

This is for Allah and his prophet, Muhammed!



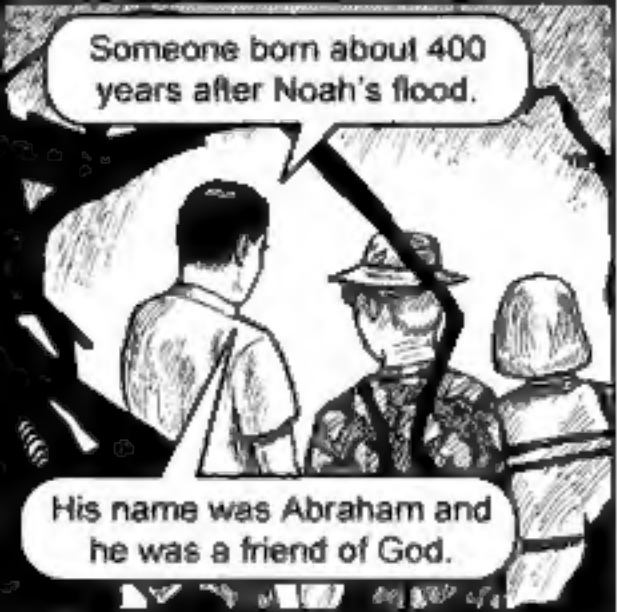


KA-BLAM!

That was *horrible!* What started this Middle East hatred?

It all started with *one* man.

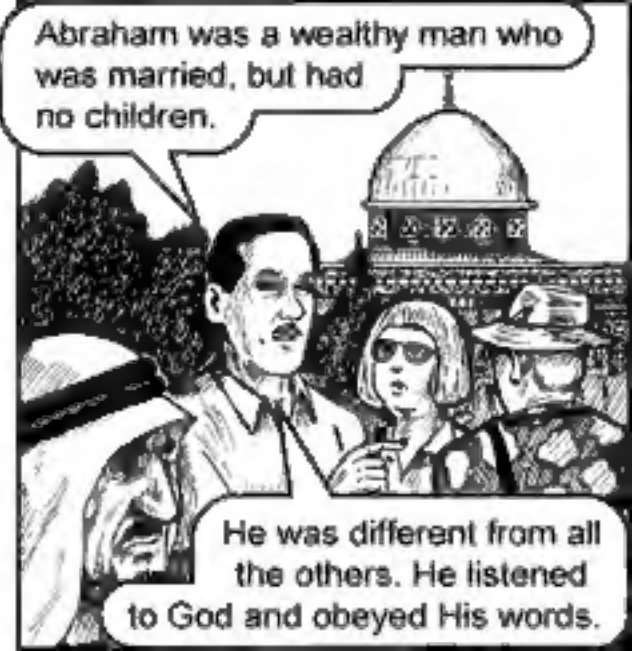
Who?

A black and white illustration of a man in a short-sleeved shirt talking to a group of people. One man in a hat and a woman are visible. A speech bubble points to the man.

Someone born about 400 years after Noah's flood.

His name was Abraham and he was a friend of God.

This story is found in Genesis 12-22.

A black and white illustration of a man in a suit speaking to a group of people. A woman with sunglasses and a man in a hat are visible. In the background is a large building with a dome. A speech bubble points to the man.

Abraham was a wealthy man who was married, but had no children.

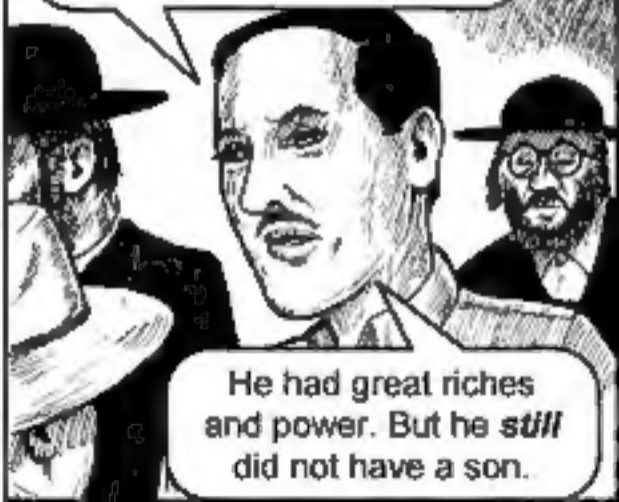
He was different from all the others. He listened to God and obeyed His words.

God spoke to him and said, "Get thee out of thy country... unto a land that I will shew (show) thee."¹



¹Gen. 12:1

God promised to make him a great nation... but Abraham had a problem.



He had great riches and power. But he *still* did not have a son.

Abraham was worried that when he died, all his riches would go to his number one servant.



So then what happened?

His wife came up with a solution that has caused us *problems* for 4000 years.

She gave her Egyptian servant, Hagar, to Abraham, so they could have a son.



This incident created the *mess* the world is in today.

While pregnant with Abraham's child,
Hagar viewed Sarah with contempt.

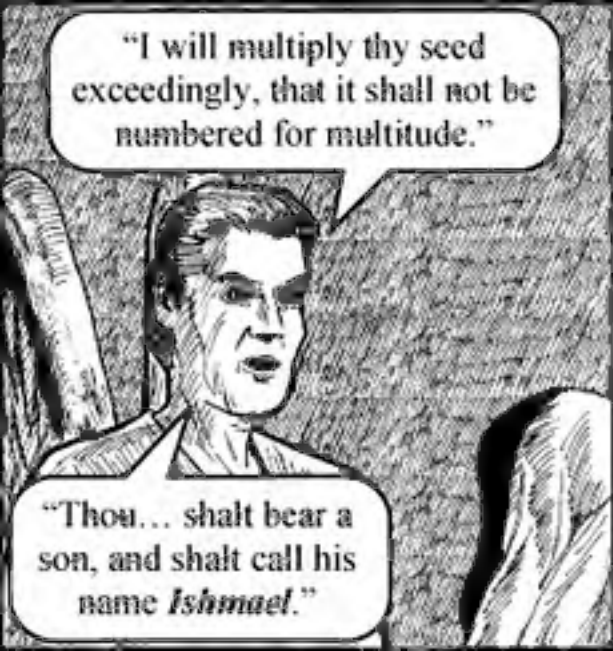


Sarah was *furious!* She treated
Hagar so badly that she ran away.

The angel of the Lord found
Hagar and told her to return
and submit to Sarah.

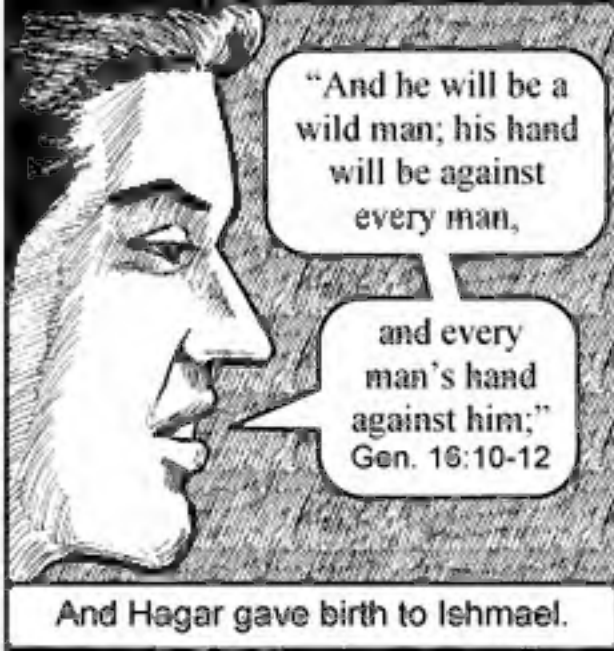


The angel then told her the
child's future. He said...

A black and white illustration of a man with a beard and a woman's shoulder. The man is looking towards the right. A speech bubble is positioned above him, and another is below him. The background is a textured, stone-like surface.

"I will multiply thy seed exceedingly, that it shall not be numbered for multitude."

"Thou... shalt bear a son, and shalt call his name *Ishmael*."

A black and white illustration showing the profile of a man's face, looking to the right. He has a beard and a mustache. Two speech bubbles are positioned to the right of his face. The background is a textured, stone-like surface.

"And he will be a wild man; his hand will be against every man,

and every man's hand against him;"
Gen. 16:10-12

And Hagar gave birth to Ishmael.

13 years later, God *again* appeared to Abraham. He told him that *Sarah* was to become the mother of nations.



But it would take a *miracle* for her to bear a child at the ripe old age of 90.

But God *kept* His promise. Sarah gave birth to little Isaac.



But there was *trouble* brewing in the camp. Sarah saw her baby was in danger.

When Isaac was weaned, there was a great party, during which time...



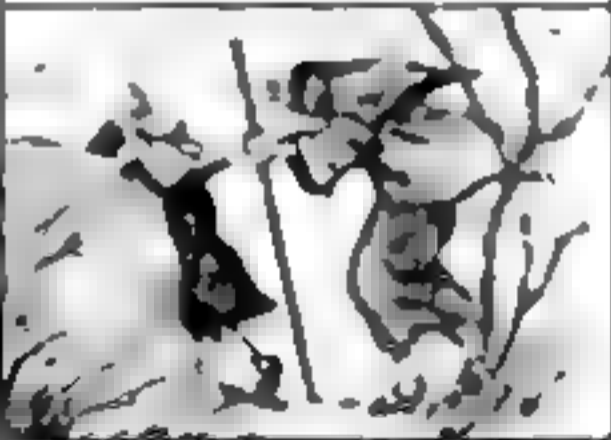
Sarah saw 13-year-old Ishmael making fun of baby Isaac.

Sarah pressured Abraham to throw Hagar and Ishmael out of the camp. He was sick about it.



God told Abraham to listen to his wife, because God's promise was to come through Isaac, *not* Ishmael.

Israhim and his mother were
angry and humiliated



They were cut off from
God's chosen people

Israhim became the powerful
leader of a great nation



They called the sons of Isaac
who became the nation of Israel
This hatred is still smoldering in
the Middle East today

Abraham was overjoyed to have a son through his wife Sarah. He was named Isaac, which means laughter.



Abraham's life was wrapped up in this child of promise.

What promise?

The promise that through Isaac, God would bless the whole world.

God fulfilled that promise about 2000 years later. Through Isaiah we came the Saviour of the world, the Lord Jesus Christ.

Then came the greatest test in Abraham's life.

God spoke and said to him
"Can you offer up your only son
whom thou lovest?"


and He said to him
"Let a burnt offering be
Gen 22:2"

Abraham was devastated!

Can you imagine what went through
Abraham's heart and mind?




How could he possibly tell the
son that God had promised him?



Oh my God my God
how can I do this?

I love you
father!

Abraham rose early He had to get
everything ready for the long journey



God you promised
that my offspring
will be as the stars
of heaven

and God you
cannot lie!





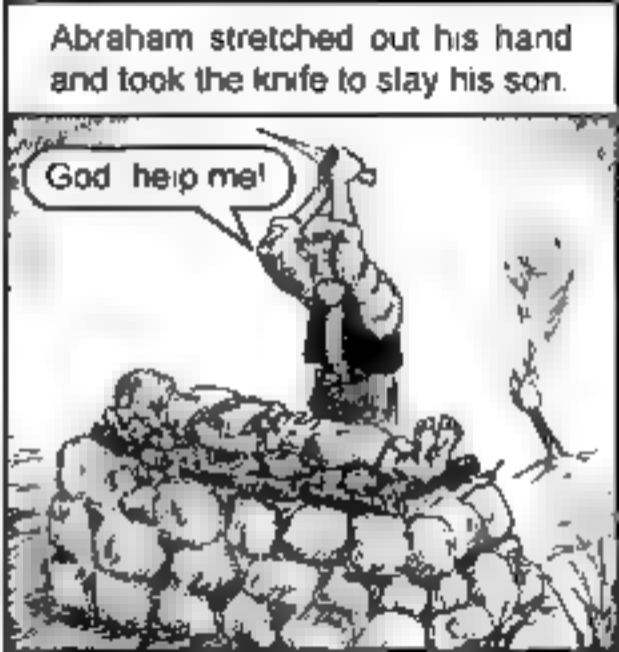
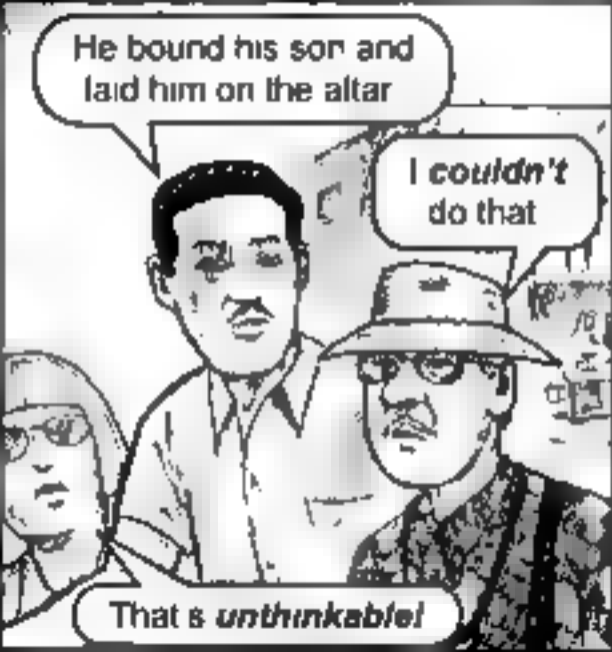
He bound his son and
laid him on the altar

I couldn't
do that

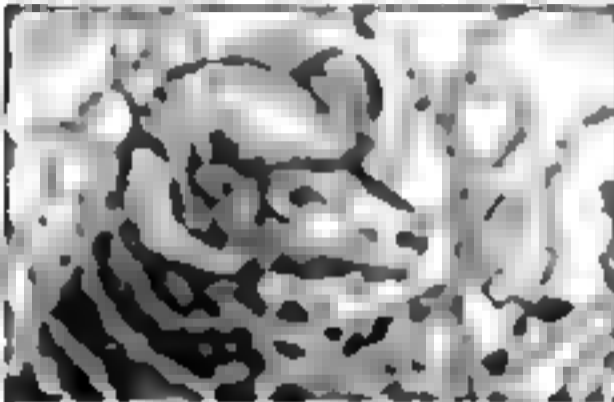
That is *unthinkable!*

Abraham stretched out his hand
and took the knife to slay his son.

God help me!



As a result of the...
...by the...



As a result of the...
...of the...

And that's the point.

The... of the...
...
...



The... of the...
...
...

Through Abraham God had shown what He Himself would do 2000 years later



By sending his only begotten Son to be a human sacrifice for our sins

He loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son

...that whosoever
believe in him
should not perish, but
have everlasting life.
- John 3:16 -



Jesus died was buried and three days later He rose from the dead

A black and white comic panel showing a man from the chest up. He is wearing a wide-brimmed hat and dark sunglasses. He has a mustache and is looking slightly to the right. His right hand is raised, with fingers spread. A speech bubble is positioned above his head.

Wasn't Jesus only a man?

No!... Jesus Christ
is God Almighty.


It was only *His* precious blood
that could wash away our sins.

A black and white comic panel showing two people reacting to a speaker whose back is to the camera. On the left, a man wearing a hat and sunglasses looks surprised. Next to him, a woman with short hair and glasses also looks surprised. The man has a speech bubble above him, and the woman has a speech bubble next to her. The speaker's speech bubble is at the bottom of the panel.

That's amazing!

I never heard
that before!


God made two more
very important promises
concerning Jesus...



If you believe that Jesus died for your sins, and make *Him* your personal Saviour...

You *will* be saved!
That is promise #1.

"For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." Rom. 6:23



The last promise is *terrifying!*
If you refuse God's love gift and reject the Lord Jesus Christ as your personal Saviour...

...you *will* be cast into the Lake of Fire. And that's a promise from the *only* One who never lied. (See Rev. 20:15)

I would be scared to death *not* to take God's love gift.

Me too... What shall we do?

Ask God to forgive your sins.

Dear Lord Jesus, we are sinners. We believe You died on the cross for us. Please become our personal Saviour. Come into our hearts. Thank You, Lord.



"...if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved." Romans 10:9

THE BIBLE SAYS THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY TO HEAVEN!

Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life; no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." John 14:6

NOBODY ELSE CAN SAVE YOU. TRUST JESUS TODAY!

"That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved." Rom. 10:9

1. Admit you are a sinner. See Romans 3:10
2. Be willing to turn from sin (repent). See Acts 17:30
3. Believe that Jesus Christ died for you, was buried and rose from the dead. See Rom. 10:9-10
4. Through prayer, invite Jesus into your heart to become your personal Saviour. See Rom. 10:13

WHAT TO PRAY

Dear God, I am a sinner and need forgiveness. I believe that Jesus Christ shed His precious blood and died for my sin. I am willing to turn from sin. I now invite Christ to come into my heart as my personal Saviour.

If you trusted Jesus as your Saviour, you have just begun a wonderful new life with Him. Now:

1. Read your Bible (KJV) every day to get to know Jesus Christ better.
2. Talk to God in prayer every day.
3. Be baptized, worship, fellowship, and serve with other Christians in a church where Christ is preached and the Bible is the final authority.
4. Tell others about Jesus Christ.

Here's help to grow as a new Christian! Read *The Next Step*, available at www.chick.com.

